

State of California
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

Thursday, March 21, 2013, 9:05 a.m. to 10:05 a.m.

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region
Board Room
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, was called to order by Chair Ellen Way at 9:05 a.m. on March 21, 2013, at Palm Desert, California.

Roll Call (Board Members Only)

Regional Board Members Present:

Buford Crites, Tom Davis, Jeff Hays, Edward Muzik, Ellen Way, Nancy Wright.

The Board Liaison stated that a quorum was present.

Regional Water Board Counsel: Tom Vandenberg

Regional Board Staff Present:

Jose Angel, Soni Wells, Mary Castañeda, John Carmona, Mary Serra, Robert Perdue, Nadim Shukry-Zeywar, Jose Cortez, Herb Jackson, Jennie Snyder

Others Present:

Steven Pastor, Riverside County Farm Bureau
Rick Webster, Imperial Valley Community College
Manual Sanchez, Imperial Valley Community College
Jennifer A. Henke, Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District
Ellen Howard, SWRCB Office of Enforcement
Ramon A. Mendoza, MITI
Steve Bigley, Coachella Valley Water District
Michael Shiang, Southern California Gas
Michael Pallmore, GSWC
Valerie Montgomery, Southern California Gas
David L. Mahaffey, Waste Water Action Pumping, Inc.

MINUTES

1. Minutes of January 17, 2013 Board Meeting

MOTION: Tom Davis moved, Jeff Hays seconded, and motion carried unanimously that the Minutes be adopted.

PUBLIC FORUM

2. David Mahaffey and Ramon Mendoza

David Mahaffey, Waste Water Action Pumping Inc., is from Yucca Valley, California. Mr. Mahaffey stated he has created a new system that does not require a discharge of wastewater. Mr. Mahaffey further stated that the wastewater industry has new systems to address discharge problems in the state of California. Mr. Mahaffey thanked the Board for the opportunity to comment.

Ramon Mendoza, MITI, noted Yucca Valley is addressing issues concerning the building of a sewer system. Mr. Mendoza inquired as to the discharge area and the discharge requirements for the sewer system. Mr. Jose Angel, AEO, provided the Board with the procedures entailed in the development of Waste Discharge Requirements for the Board's consideration for adoption. Mr. Angel stated staff is reviewing the Hi-Desert Water District's Report of Waste Discharge for completeness.

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

3. R7-2013-0005 Waste Discharge Requirements for **Genesis Solar LLC**, Owner/Operator, Proposed Genesis Solar Energy Project Class II Surface Impoundments and Land Treatment Unit; Ford Dry Lake - Riverside County

MOTION: Jeff Hays moved, Edward Muzik seconded, and motion carried on a vote of 5 "ayes" and 1 "no" that Order No. R7-2013-0005 be adopted.

4. R7-2013-0018 Waste Discharge Requirements for **Imperial Community College District**, Owner/Operator, Imperial Valley College Wastewater Treatment Plant; Imperial - Imperial County

MOTION: Nancy Wright moved, Jeff Hays seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2013-0018 be adopted.

5. R7-2013-0022 Rescission of Waste Discharge Requirements for Board Order R7-2007-0028 **Sunwest Development, LLC Mesa Apartments**, Twentynine Palms – San Bernardino County

MOTION: Nancy Wright moved, Jeff Hays seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2013-0022 be adopted.

6. R7-2013-0024 Waste Discharge Requirements for **Coachella Valley Water District**, Owner/Operator, Bombay Beach

Wastewater Treatment Facility; Bombay Beach, -
Imperial County

MOTION: Nancy Wright moved, Jeff Hays seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2013-0024 be adopted with errata.

7. R7-2013-0026 Waste Discharge Requirements (Board Order R7-2013-0026) for **Coachella Valley Water District**, Owner/Operator, Improvement District 58 Water Reclamation Plant 7 (WRP7); Indio - Riverside County

MOTION: Nancy Wright moved, Jeff Hays seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2013-0026 be adopted with Amendments.

8. R7-2013-0032 Waste Discharge Requirements for **Southern California Gas Company, North Needles Compressor Station Evaporative Coolers**, Needles, San Bernardino County.

MOTION: Nancy Wright moved, Jeff Hays seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2013-0032 be adopted with errata.

ENFORCEMENT

9. R7-2012-0043A1 Order R7-2012-0043A1 amending Cleanup and Abatement Order R7-2012-0043 issued to **Escher Oil Company**, for Cleanup of Property Located at 85-119 Avenue 50 – Coachella, Riverside County

MOTION: Tom Davis moved, Edward Muzik seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2012-0043A1 be adopted.

10. R7-2013-0029 Special Board Order R7-2013-0029 amending Cease and Desist Order R7-2009-0061 issued to **City of Holtville**, Owner/Operator, Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant and Wastewater Collection and Disposal Systems – Holtville, Imperial County.

MOTION: Edward Muzik moved, Tom Davis seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2013-0029 be adopted.

OTHER BUSINESS

11. Informational Update: Report on Status of Ag Waivers for Coachella Valley and Imperial Valley — JA
Jose Angel, AEO, stated he has opened discussions with Coachella Valley Water District and will meet with the Riverside County Farm Bureau at a future date concerning a draft Conditional Ag Waiver for Coachella Valley. Mr. Angel noted that the Coachella Valley Ag Waiver would likely have the same components as the recently adopted RB7 Palo Verde and Bard Ag Waivers. Steve Bigley, CVWD,

noted that his district was amenable to being the Coalition Manager or the Farm Bureau serving as manager, depending on the wishes of the growers and land owners.

12. Informational Update: State Water Resources Control Board Activities — TV

Tom Vandenberg, RB7 Legal Counsel, noted his written report on SWRCB and RB7 activities has been provided to the Board. Mr. Vandenberg noted the Coachella Valley Storm Channel Bacterial Indicator Basin Plan Amendment is now in effect since it was approved by OAL and USEPA.

13. Colorado River Basin Water Board Executive Officer's Report — RP

Robert Perdue, Executive Officer, described the recent changes in SWRCB membership: Charlie Hoppin, SWRCB Chair, is retiring and is being replaced by the new Chair, Felicia Marcus; both Vice-Chair Fran Spivy-Weber, the RB7 SWRCB Liaison, and SWRCB member Tam Doduc have been reappointed by the Governor and a new SWRCB member, Dorene D'Adamo, has been appointed. The SWRCB, including presently seated member Steve Moore, is now at full strength at 5 members. RB7 member Tom Davis noted his previous fruitful contact with the new SWRCB Chair Marcus when she served as head of USEPA Region IX in San Francisco.

Mr. Perdue noted that Abdi Haile, Supervising Engineering Geologist, gave a well-received presentation on March 5 before the SWRCB in Sacramento concerning the RB7 Salt and Nutrient Management Plans.

Mr. Perdue stated that Mr. Vandenberg and he were continuing a series of meetings with PG&E, Department of Toxic Substances Control, and SWRCB concerning acceptable concentrations of arsenic in fresh water used for remediation of the Hexavalent Chromium that was historically released into the ground water at the PG&E Topock Compressor Station, which is south of Needles and adjacent to the Colorado River.

Finally, Mr. Perdue addressed Board questions concerning the availability of funds to attend conferences. Mr. Perdue stated there have been restrictions placed by Cal-EPA on these types of expenditures and he expected these restrictions to remain in place through the end of the Fiscal Year.

14. Colorado River Basin Water Board Member Comments

Member Nancy Wright reported on her New River Observational Tour in Mexicali with AEO Jose Angel. Ms. Wright was pleased with the improvements since her tour 5 years ago. Ms. Wright noted the new sewer hook ups and drain improvements in Mexicali. Ms. Wright visited the Las Arenitas Waste Water Treatment Plant (Mexicali II) and stated the plant, in her opinion, was operating well. She further stated the wetlands created by the WWTP discharge appear well established. Finally, Ms. Wright described the condition of the Mexicali I WWTP in the Metropolitan area as being well kept with operational monitor sensors. Ms. Wright and Mr. Angel emphasized the professional management of the waste water systems in Mexicali.

15. Colorado River Basin Water Board Chair's Report — EW

Chair Ellen Way thanked member Tom Davis for offering to attend the upcoming Chair's Meeting at Cal-EPA in Sacramento.

CLOSED SESSION

16. At any time during the regular session, the Board may adjourn to meet in closed session to consider evidence received in an adjudicatory hearing and deliberate on a decision to be reached based on that evidence [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(c)(3)]; to discuss significant exposure to litigation [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e)(2)(B)(i)]; to discuss whether to initiate litigation [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e)(2)(C)(i)]; or to discuss initiated litigation [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e)]. Discussion of litigation is within the attorney-client privilege and may be held in closed session [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e)(2)].

No closed session was held for this meeting.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING: 9:00 AM, THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2013, PALM DESERT, CA.

ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING 10:05 a.m.